

Psalm 25:1-10

I offer my life to you, LORD. My God, I trust you. Please don't let me be put to shame! Don't let my enemies rejoice over me! For that matter, don't let anyone who hopes in you be put to shame; instead, let those who are treacherous without excuse be put to shame. Make your ways known to me, LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth—teach it to me—because you are the God who saves me.

I put my hope in you all day long. LORD, remember your compassion and faithful love—they are forever! But don't remember the sins of my youth or my wrongdoing. Remember me only according to your faithful love for the sake of your goodness, LORD. The LORD is good and does the right thing; God teaches sinners which way they should go. God guides the weak to justice, teaching them his way.

All the LORD's paths are loving and faithful for those who keep his covenant and laws.

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will call him, Emmanuel. When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have intimate relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

Sunday, December 1, 2024 8:30 am

First Sunday of Advent

**Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

SONG OF BEGINNING

Come to the Light

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE – HOPE

Romans 5:1-5

(Unison Prayer) When shall it be, O God, that the wilderness shall blossom as the rose and the rough places be made plain? When shall your glory arise among your people? When shall strife and warfare cease and your love reign? Renew our hope and quiet our fears. Revive us in this time of worship. O God of promise, visit us and lighten our darkness, we pray. Amen

SUNG RESPONSE

In This Time of Waiting

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 25:1-10

*HYMN *All Earth is Waiting, vs. 1-2 & 4*

No. 210

Red Hymnal

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Advent Hope

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON

I Must Be Dreaming

*HYMN *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

No. 224

vs.1-2

Red Hymnal

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will receive Communion at the front of the sanctuary. Once the meal has been blessed, you will be invited to come forward. You may put your hand out and a piece of bread will be given to you. You may then take a small cup from the tray. You may eat and drink as you receive the elements. Gluten-free bread is available at the center station. Bowls are at the sides of the sanctuary to collect the empty cups.

As you return to your seat, if you would like anointing with oil, you may stop to either side of the sanctuary where a pastor will be standing. Oil will be placed on your forehead in the sign of the cross and a prayer shared with you. Anointing is a way of opening yourself to God for a particular place in your own life or on behalf of someone else.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

No. 94 Doxology

*CLOSING BLESSING

*SUNG RESPONSE *O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel, vs. 2*

No. 211

Red Hymnal

POSTLUDE

Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Lead Pastor

Lisa Wink, Treasurer, Worship Assistant

Jason & Lindsay Pothof Family, Advent Readers

Christy Tubbs, Children's Time

Chancel Choir, Music; Stephanine Klein, Director; Marilyn Silvester, Piano

Sue Lundeen, Organist